



BOROUGH OF HARWICH
1939

Annual Report

ON THE

Health of Harwich
& Medical Inspection
of School Children
HARWICH

BY

JOHN BATTERSBY

*Medical Officer of Health, School
Medical Officer, Port Medical Officer*

Borough of Harwich.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS.

1939

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH & SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER :

P. POWER FOX, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER—MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE :

P. POWER FOX, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

EYE CLINIC FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN :

Visiting Specialist—V. G. WALKER, M.D., F.R.C.S., Ed.

DENTAL CLINIC :

Dental Surgeon (Part Time)—L. G. WHELPTON, L.D.S., R.C.S., Eng.

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR (who is also Borough Engineer and Surveyor)
(Full Time) :

F. H. FRENCH, M.Inst.M. and Cy.E., M.R.S.I., Cert. Inspr. Meats & Foods

ASSISTANT SANITARY INSPECTOR (Full Time) :

A. E. PRICE, Cert. R.S.I. and S.I.J.E.B.

SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE :

Nurse (Full Time)—Miss CORRAN, S.R.N.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE :

Nurse (Full Time)—Miss Z. COCKIN, A.R.S.I.

SECRETARY TO MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :

Miss R. M. WHITMORE.

Annual Report of Medical Officer of Health for Year 1939.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE
BOROUGH OF HARWICH.

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report for the year 1939.

Dr. P. P. Fox was Medical Officer of Health throughout the year 1939 and to him I am indebted for much of the material in the report.

The birth rate for the year was 15·28; a decrease from that of 1938 which was 15·51 but higher than that of England and Wales, viz. 15·0. The adjusted death rate was 12·80, that of England and Wales was 12·1. The infantile mortality rate for the year was 20·51; the rate for England and Wales was 50.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The number of attendances at the Ante-Natal Clinic was 76; a decrease of five on the previous year.

In accordance with the recommendations of the Ministry of Health hospital accommodation for complicated cases of pregnancy is provided at Colchester Maternity Home. Where conditions do not favour removal of the patient an Emergency Midwifery Unit is available for treatment in the home.

The number of births notified during the year was 195—three less than in the previous year. There were no deaths attributable to diseases or accidents of pregnancy and childbirth.

HOUSING.

Fifty-one houses were erected in the Borough by private builders. Under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936, a demolition order was made in respect of one house found in a state injurious to health. Twenty-five houses classified defective were rendered fit in consequence of informal action taken by the Local Authority, and three houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Twenty-three cases of infectious diseases (excluding Tuberculosis) were notified during the year. Cases are treated at the Colchester Isolation Hospital under arrangements with the Colchester Borough Council.

AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS.

There are two fixed First Aid Posts and one Mobile Unit, each under the charge of a Medical Officer. The fixed Aid Posts are sited at 27, West Street and adjoining the Harwich and District Hospital respectively.

On December 31st, 1939, six ambulances, four cars for sitting cases and four cars for first aid parties were available in addition to the Mobile Unit.

At the end of the year a full time staff of fifty-two was employed, reinforced by voluntary workers.

Valuable service was rendered by the British Red Cross Society and the St. John Ambulance Brigade in the training of volunteers.

My thanks are due to the Borough Surveyor and his staff for their help throughout the year.

I am, your obedient servant,

JOHN BATTERSBY,

Medical Officer of Health.

21st November, 1940.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1939.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

The area of the Borough is 1,512 acres.

Population (Census 1931) was 12,700.

Registrar-General's Estimated Population Mid-year 1939 was 12,760.

Density of Population—8·43 per acre.

Rateable value £80,712. A penny rate produces £313.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births—	Total.	M.	F.
Legitimate	190	109	81
Illegitimate	5	0	5
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 15·51.			
Still Births	10	6	4
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still-births) births, 52·5.			
Deaths.. .. .	161	83	78
Adjusted Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population .. 12·80			
Deaths from Diseases and Accidents of Pregnancy and Childbirth—			
from Sepsis	nil.		
from other causes	nil.		
No. of Deaths of Infants under one year			4

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All Infants per 1,000 live births	20·51
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	21·05
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	0
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	0
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	0

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1939.

							Males.	Females.
Influenza	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2
Tuberculosis of respiratory system..	..	..					8	3
Other tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	0
G.P.I., tabes, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	0
Cancer..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	12
Diabetes	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2
Cerebral hæmorrhage	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	9
Heart disease	..	..	..	..	..	..	18	19
Aneurysm	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	0
Other circulatory diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	4
Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	1
Pneumonia (all forms)	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	1
Other respiratory diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	0
Peptic Ulcer	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1
Cirrhosis of Liver	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	1
Other liver diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	1
Other digestive diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1
Acute and chronic nephritis	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3
Congenital debility, premature birth, etc.	..	..					2	0
Appendicitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	1
Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	1
Enceph : Lethargica..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	0
Senility	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	9
Suicide	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	0
Other violence	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	1
Other defined diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	6
Ill defined or not known	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	0
Total							83	78

DEATHS AT VARIOUS AGES DURING 1939.

										No. of Deaths.
Under 1 year	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
1 and under 2 years	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
2 " " 5	"	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
5 " " 15	"	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0
15 " " 25	"	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
25 " " 35	"	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
35 " " 45	"	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14
45 " " 55	"	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
55 " " 65	"	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	30
65 " " 75	"	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	37
75 and upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	51
										161
Total										161

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The number of infants who died under one year of age during the year 1939 was 4.

This gives a death rate of 20·51 per 1,000 births registered.

SECTION B.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

There are at present no local facilities for laboratory work.

Arrangements have been made with the County Council for the examination of all pathological specimens, apart from those connected with venereal disease, at the Essex County Public Health Laboratory. All specimens which have been sent to the Laboratory have been promptly and efficiently dealt with.

All venereal specimens are sent to one of the London hospitals in accordance with the London and Home Counties Venereal Disease Scheme

Number of Specimens examined by the Bacteriologist for Essex from the Harwich Borough district during the year ended 31st Dec., 1938 :—

SPECIMEN.	NO. EXAMINED.			
Diphtheria	39
Sputa	60
Typhoid	1
Water	—
Ice Cream	—
Miscellaneous	18
Ringworm	4
				—
				122
				—

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

Arrangements have been made with the Colchester authority for the removal of cases of infectious diseases to Hospital by means of a motor-ambulance.

NURSING IN THE HOME.

GENERAL.—There are 3 District Nurses in the borough. They are appointed and controlled by the Harwich and District Nursing Association. This is a voluntary organisation, supported mainly by voluntary contributions, and has a committee of 12 ladies under the able chairmanship of Mrs. R. A. Ward. It is affiliated to the Essex County Nursing Association, which makes an annual grant towards the nurses' salaries.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES. — No arrangements for the nursing of infectious diseases in the home are in force. In the event of a very widespread epidemic the help of the School Nurse and Health Visitor may be requisitioned.

MIDWIVES.—The Supervising Authority under the Midwives' Act, 1902 and 1918, is the Essex County Council. The number of district nurse midwives practising in the borough at the end of the year was three.

MUNICIPAL CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

The Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic was removed from 27, West Street to 81, West Street, Harwich, at the outbreak of war. The School Clinic and County Tuberculosis Dispensary were situate at 27, West Street, Harwich.

The Ante-Natal Clinic was held every Tuesday at 2.30 p.m. at 27, West Street until the outbreak of war when it was transferred to 81, West Street, Harwich. Fortnightly clinics sufficed for the attendances after September, 1939. Post-Natal examinations were also conducted at this Clinic.

The Infant Welfare Clinic was held every Thursday at 2.15 p.m. At the outbreak of war it was found necessary to hold this Clinic at 81, West Street instead of 27, West Street, Harwich.

Orthopædic Clinics were held at the local Hospital.

There were no day nurseries and no treatment centres for venereal disease in the Borough.

HOSPITALS.

There is a general Hospital called "The Harwich and District Hospital and Fryatt Memorial," situated at Dovercourt.

The Hospital has an endowment, but is mainly supported by voluntary contributions, donations, patients' payments and a workmen's contributory scheme.

It is equipped with 26 beds, X-Ray, Massage, Electrical Radiant Heat, Violet Rays and Swedish Remedial Exercises Departments.

A certain number of people in the Borough are treated at the East Suffolk and Ipswich Hospital—a large and up-to-date general hospital at Ipswich. Arrangements have been made with this hospital by the local hospital for patients suffering from cancer to be treated with radium when the occasion arises.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

RETURN TO BE MADE BY ALL WELFARE AUTHORITIES.

Population of the area served by the Council as Welfare Authority, 12,760 (Mid-year 1939).

Number of births notified in that area during the year under Section 203 of the Public Health Act, 1936, or Section 255 of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936, as adjusted by any transferred notifications :

(a) Live Births	182
(b) Still Births	7
Total	189
(d) By Midwives	97
(e) By Doctors and Parents	92

HEALTH VISITING.

- (a) Number of Health Visitors employed at the end of the year :
- (i) by the Council.. .. . 1
 - (ii) by Voluntary Associations Nil
- (b) Equivalent of whole-time services devoted by the whole staff to health visiting (including attendance at Infant Welfare Centres) :
- (i) in the case of Health Visitors employed by the Council 1
 - (ii) in the case of Health Visitors employed by Voluntary Associations Nil
- (c) Number of visits paid during the year by all health Visitors :
- (i) to expectant mothers—First Visits 50
 - Total Visits 75
 - (ii) to children under 1 year of age—First Visits 171
 - Total Visits 1263
 - (iii) to children between the ages of 1 and 5 years—
 - Total Visits 1584

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

- (a) Number of Centres provided and maintained by the Council 1
- (b) Number of Centres provided and maintained by Voluntary Associations Nil

- (c) Total number of attendances at all centres during the year :
- (i) by children under 1 year of age 1219
 - (ii) by children between the ages of 1 and 5 years .. 479
- (d) Total number of children who first attended at the centres during the year and who, on the date of their first attendance, were :
- (i) under 1 year of age 78
 - (ii) between the ages of 1 and 5 years.. .. 47
- (e) Total number of children under 5 years of age who attended at the centres during the year and who, at the end of the year were :
- (i) under 1 year of age 56
 - (ii) over 1 year of age 75
- (f) Percentage of notified live births represented by the number in (d) (i) 42·86

ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL.

	Ante-Natal.	Post-Natal.
(a) Ante-natal and Post-natal Clinics (whether held at Infant Welfare Centres or at other premises):		
(i) Number of Clinics provided and maintained by the Council	1	1
(ii) Number of Clinics provided and maintained by Voluntary Associations ..	—	—
(iii) Total number of attendances at all Clinics during the year	273	10
(iv) Total number of women who attended at the Clinics during the year	76	10
(b) Total number of expectant mothers ante-natally examined and of cases post-natally examined during the year, under arrangements made by the Council with private medical practitioners, excluding cases included under 5 (a) (iv)	Nil	Nil
(c) Percentage of total notified births (live and still) represented by the total numbers of women shown under 5 (a) (iv) and 5 (b) ..	40·21	5·29

SUPPLY OF MILK AND FOOD—(a).

Terms of Supply.	Milk			Meals supplied at dining centres			Other Food		
	Expectant Mothers	Nursing Mothers	Children under 5	Expectant Mothers	Nursing Mothers	Children under 5	Expectant Mothers	Nursing Mothers	Children under 5
Free, or at less than cost price, in necessitous cases	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
At cost price in other cases (e.g. sale of dried milk at centres	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes

(b) Total quantity of milk supplied during the year to expectant and nursing mothers and young children :—

	Liquid Gallons.	Dried Pounds.
(i) by the Council	1173	1542
(ii) by Voluntary Associations operating in the area of the Council		
Totals	1173	1542

Number of Women (if any) sent by the Council during the year to other Maternity Institutions 16

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Disease.	Number of cases notified during the year.	Number of cases visited by officers of the Council.	Number of cases for whom home nursing was provided by the Council.	Number of cases removed to hospitals.
(1) Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Nil			
(2) Pemphigus Neonatorum	Nil			
(3) Puerperal fever	Nil			
(4) Puerperal pyrexia	Nil			
(5) Measles and German measles (in children under 5 years of age)	1	—	—	—
(6) Whooping Cough (do.)	Nil			
(7) Epidemic diarrhoea (do.)	Nil			
(8) Poliomyelitis (do.)				

CHILD LIFE PROTECTION [Sections 206 to 220 of the Public Health Act, 1936, or part XIII of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936] :

- (a) Number of persons who were receiving children for reward at the end of the year 2
- (b) Number of children :
- (i) at the end of the year 2
- (ii) who died during the year Nil
- (iii) on whom inquests were held during the year .. Nil
- (c) Number of Child Protection Visitors at the end of the year who were :
- (i) Health Visitors 1
- (ii) Female, other than Health Visitors Nil
- (iii) Male Nil
- (d) Number of persons (in addition to or in lieu of Visitors under (c) above) or societies authorised to visit under the proviso to Section 209 (2) of the Public Health Act, 1936, or Section 258 (3) of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936 Nil
- (e) Proceedings taken during the year :
- No. of Cases Nil
- Act and Section under which proceedings were taken .. Nil
- (f) Number of cases in which the local authority has given a sanction during the year :
- (i) under Section 210 of the Public Health Act, 1936, or Section 259 of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936 Nil
- (ii) „ (b) „ „ „ „ Nil
- (iii) „ (c) „ „ „ „ Nil
- (g) Number of orders obtained during the year under Section 212 of the Public Health Act, 1936, or Section 261 of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936 :
- (i) from a court of summary jurisdiction Nil
- (ii) from a single justice Nil

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY.

Water is supplied by the Tendring Hundred Water Company, and is a satisfactory supply as regards both quantity and quality.

WELLS.

There are a few local private wells supplying isolated houses with water. Routine inspection of the same is carried out.

SEWAGE AND DRAINAGE.

The Borough, except a few low-lying and sparsely populated parts, is sewered, but owing to the town's growth it will be necessary to provide a new sewerage system to deal with the undeveloped part where houses are being erected.

The sewage from Lower Dovercourt and Harwich is discharged into the sea, while at Upper Dovercourt it is treated by septic tanks and the effluent discharged into the Dock River.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Most closets in the Borough are of the wash-down type and flushed by cisterns.

There are still a few hand-flushed closets, and as nuisance arises owners are called upon to provide and fix flushing cisterns.

The pail closets and privies are all situate at Upper Dovercourt, at one time a rural part of the town. The approximate number is as under :—

Water Closets	..	..	..	..	4899
Pail Closets	..	..	..	..	36
Privies	..	..	..	..	15

SCAVENGING.

Household refuse is collected by the Corporation by direct labour, and is disposed of by controlled dumping, all refuse being covered by soil.

It is collected in the more congested parts of the town thrice weekly, and in all other parts twice weekly.

The emptying of cesspools, privies and pail closets is done by the tenants or owners.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Inspection and re-inspection of the Area under Public Health and Housing Acts :—

Number of informal notices and letters	25
Number of statutory notices served	Nil
Inspections for the provision of Dustbins	18
Number of notices served on owners to provide Dustbins	18
Number of new Dustbins supplied by owners	18

SECTION D.

GENERAL HOUSING.

1. NO. OF NEW HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR :

(i) By the Local Authority	0
(ii) By other Local Authorities.. .. .	0
(iii) By other bodies or persons	51
	<hr/>
	51
	<hr/>

2. INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR :

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ..	25
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ..	50
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ..	Nil.
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ..	Nil.
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	1
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	25

3. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES :

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers.. .. .	25
--	----

4. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR :

A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil.
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :	
(a) By Owners	Nil.
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ..	Nil.

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts—

- | | | |
|--|---------|------|
| (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | .. | Nil. |
| (2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :— | | |
| (a) By Owners | .. .. . | Nil. |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners | .. | Nil |

C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

- | | | |
|---|---------|------|
| (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | .. .. . | 1 |
| (2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | .. .. . | 3 |
| (3) Demolished Voluntary | .. .. . | Nil. |

D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936—

- | | | |
|---|----|------|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made | .. | Nil. |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit | .. | Nil. |

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.—There are 4 registered cowkeepers in the borough. In every case the cows are habitually turned out a part of each day.

The greater part of the milk is imported from the Tendring Rural district. The following statement shows the number of purveyors of milk registered under the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Order :—

Number on register at 31st December, 1938	..	54
Number registered during the year ..	..	0
Number withdrawn during the year ..	..	0
Total ..	..	54

Frequent visits are made to all cowsheds and milkshops, and the premises found to be kept in a clean condition.

The supply of milk is of great importance, and I feel that until all dairies, cowsheds and milkshops are licensed annually, and power given to Local Authorities to refuse licences where premises are not in all respects scrupulously clean, the milk supply will not be beyond reproach.

Some cowkeepers who purvey most of their milk in the Borough supply Accredited milk under licence from the County Council, and one retailer holds a licence to purvey Accredited milk, tuberculin tested, and two for Pasteurised milk.

MEAT INSPECTION.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.—Frequent inspections are made of the slaughter houses, and practically at all times of slaughtering, for the purpose of examining meat. The following table gives the number of private slaughter houses in use :—

Licensed	6
-------------	----	---

Of the slaughter houses in the borough, five are on the Bathside and one in Lee Road, Dovercourt. The premises are kept in a clean condition, and hot lime-washed at frequent intervals.

The butchers have furnished a list of days and times at which slaughtering takes place, and also notify the Inspector of any time of slaughter outside the regular hours.

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle, excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed (if known) ..					
Number inspected	319	Nil	12	568	655

MEAT SHOPS.—Frequent inspections are made of all shops, stores, and vehicles where food is stored for sale. These premises are found to be in a clean condition, and to comply with the Regulations.

BAKEHOUSES.—There are 11. Frequent visits are made, and all are found to be kept in a clean condition. All the premises have been hot lime-washed at least twice during the year, and there are now no underground bakehouses in use in the Borough.

PARTICULARS OF FOOD AND DRUGS SAMPLES TAKEN IN THE BOROUGH OF HARWICH DURING 1939.

Article.	No. Taken.	Genuine.	Adulterated.
Milk	12	11	1 (9% def. in Milk Fat)
Ammoniated Quinine Tablets ..	1	1	—
Seidlitz Powder	2	2	—
Boracic Ointment	1	1	—
Glauber Salts	1	—	1
Ammoniated Tincture of Quinine ..	1	1	—
Zinc Ointment	1	1	—
School Milks*	8	8	—
	—	—	—
	27	25	2
	—	—	—

*These Milk samples were taken at the Harwich High School under the County Council's "Milk in Schools Scheme" and included four samples taken for bacteriological and biological examination.

The sample of Glauber Salts had deteriorated through being kept in store too long before sale and was due in part to being packed in cardboard container. The manufacturers were communicated with.

The vendor of the sample of Milk deficient in fat was cautioned.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Immunization.

During the year 52 school children were immunized against Diphtheria. The material used was Diphtheria Prophylactic T.A.F. (Burroughs Wellcome and Co.). No pre-school children were immunized.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1939.

TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED.

Diseases.	under 1	Ages													up 65	Total	Cases admitted to Hosp'al	Deaths
		1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45							
Small Pox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	2	3	2	2	—	1	1	—	11	—	7	—	—	
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	—	
Enteric Fever	}	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	}	—	—	—	
including Paratyphoid		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Pneumonia	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	3	1	7	—	4	—	2	
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	3	—	—	—	—	
Anterior Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Total	—	1	—	—	3	3	2	4	1	1	5	3	23	—	13	—	2	

Tuberculosis.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1939.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
15	—	3	—	—	—	2	—	—
25	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
35	2	1	—	—	2	—	1	—
45	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
55	2	1	—	—	2	1	—	—
65 and up	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	6	5	—	2	7	3	1	—

Report on the administration of the

Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, and the Factories Act, 1937

which superseded the Act of 1901 on 1st July, 1938).

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Occupiers prosecuted. (4)
Factories with mechanical power	11	—	—
Factories without mechanical power	25	—	—
Other Premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises)	—	—	—
Total	36	—	—

2.—DEFECTS FOUND

Particulars.		Number of Defects.			Number of defects in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted.
		Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
(1)		(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	..	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	..	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	..	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	..	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	..	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)	insufficient	—	—	—	—
	unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—
	not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
Other offences	..	—	—	—	—
(Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937.)					
Total	..	—	—	—	—

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report of the School Medical Service for the year 1939.

NUTRITIONAL STANDARD.

An improvement in the standard of nutrition was noted during the year; the percentage of children who were slightly sub-normal being 2·48 as compared with 4 for the previous year. No child was found to be definitely sub-normal. This improvement was reflected in the improved attendance figures for the year.

DENTAL INSPECTION.

The total number of dental examinations carried out during the year was 2,186. The number of children who were found to require dental treatment was 595, the percentage of children who attended for treatment being 80·5, which compares favourably with the percentage attending during previous years.

A further increase in the number of children who received conservative treatment was noted, the total number of fillings being 212. This increase was due mainly to the increased number of temporary teeth which were filled, and is a further indication that parents are appreciating the fact that dental hygiene is of paramount interest in promoting the health of the school child.

AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS.

During the latter part of the year all schools were provided with air raid shelters. Provision of first aid equipment was made to each shelter so that, in the event of children receiving any minor injuries, these injuries can be attended to on the spot. The majority of the teachers have received instruction in First Aid and Anti-Gas, and are well qualified to carry out the treatment of minor injuries.

ORTHOPAEDIC CLINIC.

During the year a Remedial Exercises Clinic for the treatment of orthopaedic defects was instituted. The Clinic was held monthly at the School Clinic and was of value in promoting the after-care of children seen at the Orthopaedic Clinic held at the Hospital.

Further details of the work done are given in the following tables.

I have to thank Nurse Corran for the zealous and efficient manner in which she carries out her duties.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN BATTERSBY,

School Medical Officer.

MEDICAL INSPECTION RETURNS.

For year ended 31st December, 1939.

TABLE I.
MEDICAL INSPECTIONS OF CHILDREN ATTENDING PUBLIC
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

A. ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups—					
Entrants .. ..	..	..	..	..	169
Second Age Group ..	..	..	..	..	212
Third Age Group ..	..	..	..	..	146
Total					527
Number of other Routine Inspections					128
Grand Total					655

B. OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections and Re-inspections ..	69
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TABLE II.
CLASSIFICATION OF THE NUTRITION OF CHILDREN INSPECTED
DURING THE YEAR IN THE ROUTINE AGE GROUPS UP TO
31ST AUGUST, 1939.

Age-Groups.	Number of Children Inspected	A Excel- lent		B Normal		C Slightly sub- normal		D Bad	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants	127	24	18·89	95	74·8	8	6·29	—	—
Second Age-Group.. ..	132	12	9·09	118	89·3	2	1·51	—	—
Third Age-Group	91	23	25·27	68	74·7	Nil	Nil	—	—
Other Routine Inspections	93	30	32·26	62	66·6	1	1·08	—	—
TOTAL	443	89	20·09	343	77·4	11	2·48	—	—

TABLE III.
BLIND CHILDREN.

Name.	Age.	Address.	At a Public Elementary School.	At another Institution.	At no School or Institution.
—	—	—	1	—	—

DEAF CHILDREN.

Name.	Age.	Address.	At a Public Elementary School.	At another Institution.	At no School or Institution.
—	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE IV.—TREATMENT TABLES.

GROUP I.—MINOR AILMENTS (excluding Uncleanliness, for which see TABLE VI).

Disease or Defect. (1)	Number of Defects treated, or under treatment during the year.		
	Under the Authority's Scheme. (2)	Otherwise. (3)	Total. (4)
Skin—			
Ringworm, Scalp—			
(i.) X-Ray Treatment.	—	—	—
(ii.) Other	—	—	—
Ringworm, Body	—	—	—
Scabies	—	—	—
Impetigo	6	—	6
Other Skin disease	1	1	2
Minor Eye Defects	2	—	2
Minor Ear Defects	21	1	22
Miscellaneous	43	2	45
(e.g., minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.)			
Total	73	4	77

GROUP II.—DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT (excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments—Group I.)

Defect or Disease. (1)	No. of Defects dealt with.		
	Under the Authority's Scheme. (2)	Otherwise. (3)	Total. (4)
Errors of Refraction (including Squint)	49	2	51
Other Defect or Disease of the Eyes (excluding those recorded in group I.)	2	—	2
Total	51	2	53
No. of children for whom spectacles were			
(a) Prescribed	49	2	51
(b) Obtained	49	2	51

GROUP III.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF NOSE AND THROAT.

Number of Defects.

Received Operative Treatment.		Total.	Received other forms of Treatment.	Total number treated.
Under the Authority's Scheme, in Clinic or Hospital	By private practitioner or Hospital apart from the Authority's Scheme.			
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
10	7	17	—	17

GROUP IV.—ORTHOPÆDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS.

Under the Authority's Scheme :

Non-residential treatment at an orthopædic clinic:—

Number of children treated 21

TABLE V.—DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.

(1) Number of Children inspected by the Dentist :

(a) Routine Age Groups

Age	4	..	..	35	
	5	..	..	110	
	6	..	..	118	
	7	..	..	115	
	8	..	..	120	
	9	..	..	129	
	10	..	..	149	
	11	..	..	132	
	12	..	..	111	
	13	..	..	152	
	14	..	..	18	Total .. 1189

(b) Specials 97

(c) Total (Routine and Specials) 1286

(2) Found to require treatment 595

(3) Actually treated 478

(4) Attendances made by children for treatment 564

(5) Half days devoted to:—

Inspection..	6	} Total 63
Treatment	57	

(6) Fillings:—

Permanent teeth	164	} Total 212
Temporary teeth	48	

(7) Extractions:—

Permanent teeth	79	} Total 606
Temporary teeth	527	

(8) Administrations of general anæsthetics for extractions 24

(9) Other operations:—

Permanent teeth	183	} Total 231
Temporary teeth	48	

TABLE VI.—UNCLEANLINESS AND VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.

(i)	Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses	11
(ii)	Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses	7562
(iii)	Number of <i>individual</i> children found unclean	62
(iv.)	Number of <i>individual</i> children cleansed under Section 87 (2) and (3) of the Education Act, 1921	1
(v.)	Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken:—	
	(a) Under the Education Act, 1921	—
	(b) Under School Attendance Byelaws	—

MENTAL DEFICIENCY.

MENTAL DEFICIENCY (NOTIFICATION OF CHILDREN) REGULATIONS, 1928.

STATEMENT OF THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR
ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1939, BY THE LOCAL EDUCATION AUTHORITY TO
THE LOCAL MENTAL DEFICIENCY AUTHORITY.

Total number of children notified Nil

ANALYSIS OF THE ABOVE TOTAL.

<i>Diagnosis.</i>						<i>Boys.</i>	<i>Girls.</i>
1.	(i)	Children incapable of receiving benefit or further benefit from instruction in a Special School :—					
	(a)	Idiots				—	—
	(b)	Imbeciles				—	—
	(c)	Others				—	—
	(ii)	Children unable to be instructed in a Special School without detriment to the interests of other children:					
	(a)	Moral defectives				—	—
	(b)	Others				—	—
2.		Feeble-minded children notified on leaving a Special School on or before attaining the age of 16				—	—
3.		Feeble-minded children notified under Article 3, <i>i.e.</i> , "special circumstances" cases				—	—
4.		Children who in addition to being mentally defective were blind or deaf.. .. .				—	—
GRAND TOTAL						—	—

